

Climate credentials put to test

TGG's candidate survey

Council elections
By **GERARD WALSH**

THE Goulburn Group says the results of a survey it sent to all 18 candidates contesting next month's council elections will give voters a clear idea of who's serious about climate change and sustainable development.

"We want to give our future community leaders the opportunity to inform the public about their priorities," TGG Chairman Urs Walterlin said.

"The focus of the questionnaire is on issues relating to climate change and sustainability.

"Climate change is the major challenge our community will be facing in the next few years, therefore it is the major challenge for our future leaders."

Mr Walterlin is confident all candidates will respond to the five question survey which asks for their views on climate change and how it might impact on the "social fabric of the Goulburn Mulwaree region."

TGG also quizzes candidates on their views on waste management, whether they support an action plan to reduce carbon emissions by 30 per cent by 2020, and how they would prevent Goulburn "becoming a welfare town".

"We are sure every candidate will

have a view on the issues we cover in our questionnaire," Mr Walterlin told the *Post*.

"We would hope that all of them will take the opportunity to inform the community about these views. Those who decide not to - well that says something too, doesn't it?"

Mr Walterlin said his group won't be officially endorsing any candidate.

However, he did say "TGG will certainly support any councillor who has a vision of developing the Goulburn region in a sustainable, quality way."

"The times of decision makers being able to have a crash-and-burn attitude to development are over," he said.

It was rumoured before nominations closed earlier this month that at least one member of TGG would run for council.

When asked why the group didn't field its own candidate, Mr Walterlin told the *Post*: "We just didn't think it was a good use of our resources and skills to stand for council this time."

"The experience of the last few years has shown that we can be more effective outside of council," he said.

"With our international focus we can bring in different ideas and try to adapt them to specific situations in Goulburn Mulwaree.

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Dressed for success

DESPITE the cold, windy conditions, young Ruby Shepherd and 'Smokey' performed smartly in the Goulburn Pony Club Dressage Test event on Saturday. The club also held a gymkhana yesterday at its Eastgrove grounds. More photos in Wednesday's *Goulburn Post*. Photo: Darryl Fernance.

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